

MR1957-572

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIM

1. (Amended) A retaining and fixing structure of raised floor holder, comprising:
 - a holder body having a screw hole thereon;
 - a pipe cover disposed at a top of said holder body, a retaining groove being annularly disposed on said pipe cover; and
 - a fixing stud screwed into said screw hole of said holder body, a [front] first end of said fixing stud being matched into said retaining groove of said pipe cover and
a second end joined to a circular turn knob, said circular turn knob having a knurled
perimeter edge.

MR1957-572

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 13 May 2002. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the combination of elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application.

In the Official Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5), because they did not include a reference sign mentioned in the Specification. The Examiner stated that the reference numeral 22, shown in FIG. 6, was not mentioned in the Description.

The Specification has been amended to add the reference numeral 22 therein. Further, the knurling shown in FIG. 6 is being added to the Specification and a reference numeral is being added to FIG. 6 to identify the knurling on the perimeter of the circular turn knob 22. As the knurling is clearly shown in FIG. 6, such provides antecedent basis for the addition to the Specification, and thus no new matter has been added thereto. A marked-up copy of the drawing of FIG. 6 is enclosed for the Examiner's approval. A corrected formal drawing will be submitted subsequent to the Examiner's approval of the marked-up drawing and allowable subject matter being found.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable over Alderfer, U.S. Patent #2,504,291, in view of Kita, et al., U.S. Patent #4,083,415. The Examiner stated that the Alderfer reference disclosed a holder body, and

MR1957-572

a pipe cover disposed at a top of the holder body. The Examiner further stated that the reference disclosed a rod body fixedly disposed at a bottom of the top plate, the rod body being matched into the assembly hole. The Examiner, however, admitted that the reference failed to disclose a screw hole on the holder body, a retaining groove on the pipe cover or a fixing stud. The Examiner further stated that pipe covers, or sleeve nuts, are well known in the art and are attached in a variety of ways. The Examiner then referred to the Kita, et al. reference as disclosing that one way to attach a sleeve nut to a tubular member is by including an annular groove on the small diameter portion of the sleeve nut and then using a set screw to retain the sleeve nut in place. The Examiner then concluded it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have attached the pipe cover of Alderfer in the manner taught by Kita, et al.

As shown in FIG. 6, the invention of the subject Patent Application provides a circular turn button 22 joined to the fixing stud 20, the circular turn button 22 having a knurled perimeter edge 222 so that a user can conveniently tighten or loosen the fixing stud by hand.

In contradistinction, the Alderfer reference discloses a telescopic and adjustable building support wherein the jack screw 12 is threaded into the nut 10. No means for locking the jack screw 12 against rotation is disclosed or suggested in the reference, as admitted by the Examiner.

The Kita, et al. reference does not overcome the deficiencies of Alderfer. The Kita,

MR1957-572

et al. reference discloses a mining bit with a replaceable work engaging member. The work engaging member is engaged to the reduced diameter portion 20 of the bit body 12 by a plurality of balls 34 pressed radially inward by screws 36 to engage a respective portion of an annular groove 30 formed in the reduced diameter portion 20. Nowhere does the reference disclose or suggest coupling the working portion of the bit 18 to the bit body 12, and utilizing the ball and screw combination for locking threadedly engaged parts together. Still further, the reference fails to disclose providing a circular turn knob having a knurled perimeter edge to the set screws 36.

Therefore, the combination of Alderfer and Kita, et al. cannot make obvious the invention of the subject Patent Application, as now defined in Claim 1. Further, the Claims dependent on Claim 1 should also be allowable, for the same reasons.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.



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Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: 13 Aug. 2002

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MR1957-572

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit #3632, on the date shown below.

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04586

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Marked-Up Specification Page

extending rod body 12 is fixedly disposed at the bottom of the top plate 11. The rod body 12 is a screw rod. The rod body 12 is matched into the assembly hole 16 by screwing. At least a screw nut 17 is screwed to the rod body (screw rod) 12 so that the rod body 12 can be fixedly locked on the holder body 10. A retaining and fixing structure of raised floor holder of the present invention is thus formed.

The present invention utilizes the pipe cover 13 to support and fix the rod body 12 of the top plate 11. Because the pipe cover 13 has a larger height, a larger contact area can be obtained between the inner wall thereof and the rod body 12 to enhance degree of tightness, thereby preventing the top plate 11 and the rod body 12 from generating jolt and displacement. Therefore, the holder body 10 and the top plate 11 can be firmly joined. Moreover, the pipe cover is a rigid block having higher strength, hence enhancing vibration-proof capability of raised floor.

In the present invention, the fixing stud 20 screwed onto the holder body 10 is matched into the retaining groove 18 of the pipe cover 13 so that the pipe cover 13 can be retained and fixed on the holder body 10 through the fixing stud 20. Therefore, when the pipe cover 13 is assembled at the top of the holder body 10, the pipe cover 13 will not generate axial displacement along the holder body 10. In other words, the pipe cover 13 and the holder body 10 will not unsettle or separate from each other, hence achieving higher strength and better vibration-proof capability.

Additionally, as shown in Fig. 6, the shape of the retaining groove 18 of the present invention can vary. Moreover, the fixing stud can join a larger turn

22 has a rounded perimeter edge ³²² so that a user can directly turn it with hands conveniently.

turn the circular turn button 22 by hand.

Approved
JW
10/9/02

MARKED VERSION OF DRAWING
PAGE AS ORIGINALLY FILED

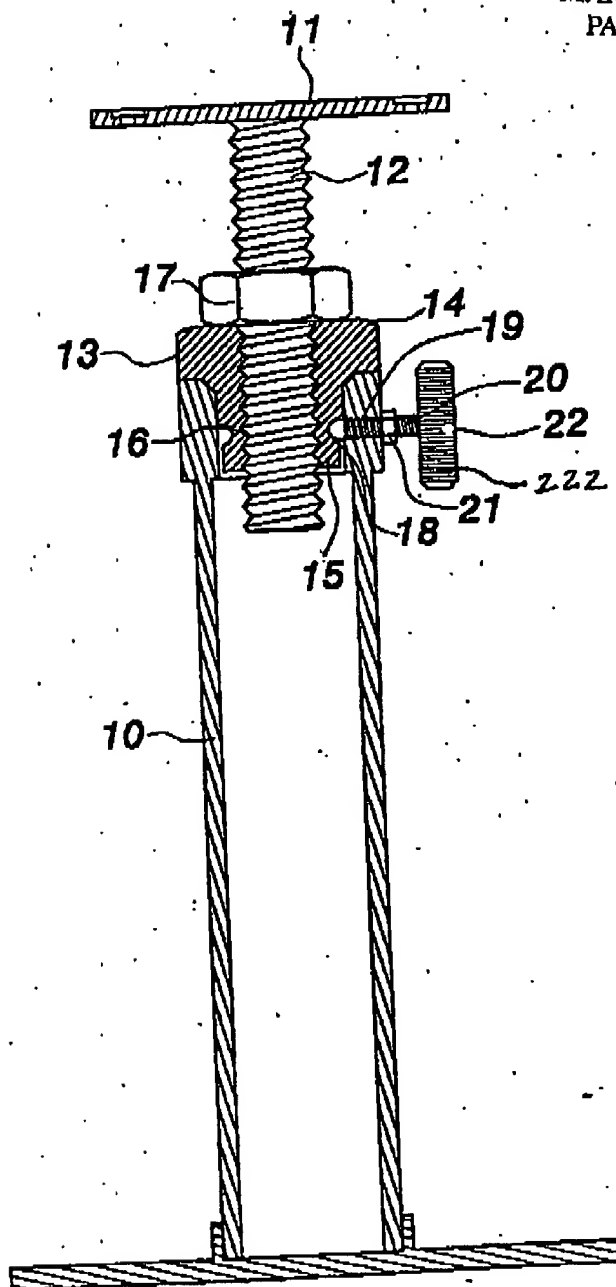


FIG. 6